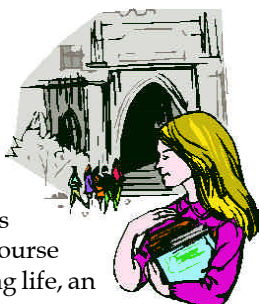


# \$250,000

Would you work two years for a quarter-of-a-million dollars? Of course you would! At New Hampshire Community Technical Colleges, we specialize in providing the Associate Degrees that can help you to reach your goals. Current research shows that, over the course of your working life, an Associate Degree can help you earn \$250,000 more than a high school diploma alone!



However, money isn't everything. New Hampshire Community Technical College students are looking for transferability, a ton of programs to choose from, and great career placement. That's good news for us.

With more than 240 degree and certificate programs to choose from, NHCTC is a great choice if you know exactly what you want to do, *and* if you're not quite sure! Most of our students will change their minds, raise their goals, and experience several different things during college. As a result, we have more students that transfer their credits toward a baccalaureate degree after they graduate.

NHCTC students transfer to colleges all over the place. Close to home, these colleges include: The University of New Hampshire, Keene State College, Plymouth State College, and Southern New Hampshire

University. NHCTC graduates are also continuing their college careers at University of Vermont, University of Massachusetts, Rochester Institute of Technology, Notre Dame College, and Franklin Pierce College ... just to name a few!

We have campuses in Berlin, Claremont, Concord, Laconia, Manchester, Nashua and Stratham, as well as other locations throughout the state. Every college has exciting transfer opportunities, business degrees, and computer programs, as well as "one-of-a-kind" offerings. For example, did you know that NHCTC Laconia offers the only Fire Science program in New Hampshire? Now that's a HOT program! We also have the only Mobile Equipment Diesel Technology degree in the region at our

**...take off with our aviation program.**

college in Berlin. At NHCTC Stratham/Pease, you can enroll in one of the fastest growing and coolest information systems programs in the country. At NHCTC Nashua, your career can take off with our aviation program, or you can "phone home" with a telecommunications degree. NHCTC Claremont lets you jump head-first into the world of health care, and NHTI is in the middle of building a state-of-the-art Early Childhood Education lab school, and a sweet new library. NHCTC



**...“phone home” with a telecommunications degree.**

Manchester offers a great balance between the liberal arts and building trades.

All of this is just the tip of the iceberg (the good kind ... not the same one that was in Titanic.) Your Community Technical Colleges are here to provide accessible, high



quality degrees that will help you reach your goals.

You get the idea. The list--and opportunities--are endless. The best way to figure out if your plans should include the New Hampshire Community Technical Colleges is to stop by. Give us a call at 1-800-247-3420, and we'll put you in touch with the campus of your choice. You can also check us out on the web at [www.nhctcs.tec.nh.us](http://www.nhctcs.tec.nh.us).

## What Should I Do?

### Three Steps to Choosing a Career

A professional wrestler runs for governor of Minnesota and wins. The owner and pastry chef of my neighborhood bakery is a former investment banker. A friend from college who was a computer scientist for seven years now makes her living as a sailboat captain in Seattle. How did these people get where they are today? They got there through a combination of luck, confidence, and lots of self-awareness. As you contemplate where your own career might take you after college, it's impossible to know what opportunities fate may throw your way. What you can do, however, is identify your interests, talents, and values, then explore occupations that might make good use of them. If you follow the three-step process below, you won't just be sitting back waiting for careers and jobs to land in your lap. You'll be working toward discovering what makes you happy.

#### Step One

Figure out what makes you tick. Ask yourself these questions:

- What piques (and holds) my interest?
- What do I do well?
- What kind of personality do I have?
- What's really important to me?

Take any career-related tests that your college's career center might offer. Or think of times when you've enjoyed and excelled at a job, internship, class, or aspect of your personal life. A great book to read for help with this process is *Do What You Are*, by Paul Tieger and Barbara Barron-Tieger.

#### Step Two

Learn about your career options. Rarely do you have the opportunity to take a class in college that shows you what the work world is like. You have



to take the initiative to explore it yourself. See if your college's career office has a library of books that describe different kinds of work, the typical qualifications needed, and the salary ranges for various occupations. You can also find profiles of career fields at the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) Web site. Your college's career counselors should be able to help. Also, talk to people through informational interviews, and try out careers by shadowing and taking internships or part-time jobs.

#### Step Three

Sort out your priorities. After you've spent time on steps one and two, some of your strong preferences may start to emerge. You might learn you don't want to be in a corporate environment: That rules out investment banking. Or you might find that your interest in art wouldn't sustain a career, so you cross those types of jobs off your list. Whatever it is that you learn about yourself, you're making important discoveries that will help you choose a good career when the time comes. Most importantly, keep it all in perspective. Remember that you don't have to live forever with any career decision you make now. Most people change careers several times over their lives, so the thing you choose to do right after college will most likely not be your career forty or fifty years from now - unless you want it to be. So don't put too much pressure on yourself to make the perfect decision. And always keep your eyes open.

Source: [campus.monster.com/articles/](http://campus.monster.com/articles/)



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